tions were given at these major cities upto 30.9.88 besides other places in Madhya Pradesh:

(i) Indore-950 (ii) Jabalpur-180 (iii) Raipur-51 (iv) Gwalior-90 (v) Bhopal-46.

(II) For release of further new telephone connections at these places, plans for expanding the existing exchange capacities are as follows:—

Station	Type of Equipment	Expansion during 1988-89 (lines)	Expansion during 1989-90 (Lines)
(i) Indore	E-10 B	..	10,000
(ii) Jabalpur	X-Bar	500	..
(iii) Gwalior	X-Bar	..	6,000
(iv) Bhopal	E-10 B	4,000	4,000
(v) Raipur	E-10 B	..	6,000
(vi) Raipur	Strowger	300	..

Crisis in the ITI Palghat

2094. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the "Indian Express" of 6th November, 1988 wherein it has been stated that Palghat Unit of public sector Indian Telephone Industries is in doldrums following the recent decision to locate the production of digital electronic integrated local and trunk exchange;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to avoid the crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) to (c) Indian Telephone Industries has no plans to re-locate the production of digital electronic integrated local and trunk exchanges from Palghat and will continue to manufacture these exchanges to the capacity foreseen in the project.

Public call offices in the rural areas

2095. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the State-wise number of local and long distance public call offices to be installed in the rural areas during the remaining period of Seventh Plan so as to provide adequate telecommunication facilities in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): Details of the targets for opening LDPTs in the rural areas statewise is given in the enclosed statement (*See* below) No target for opening of local PCOs in rural areas are fixed. However, when an LDPT working in a rural area is converted into an exchange, LDPT working there is generally converted into a local PCO.

Statement

Circle/State	Target for 1988-90
Andhra Pradesh	31
Assam	150
Bihar	600
Gujarat	280
Haryana	160
Himachal Pradesh	120
Jammu & Kashmir	140
Karnataka	340
Kerala	11
Madhya Pradesh	740
Maharashtra	670
North East :	
Arunachal Pradesh	20